

Ecological Site Description ID:		R231XY139AK	
Ecological Dynamics of the Site:			
<p>This subalpine ecological site was observed on the broad rounded summits/shoulders of hills at high elevations (i.e. &lt; 10% slopes, 1,050 – 1200 meters). While sporadic white spruce is a component of this ecological site, tree cover was generally &lt; 5% and deemed limited in large part due to the cold micro-climate. Communities are similar to R231XY164AK but differ due to an observed lack of fire disturbance. This ecological site was observed specifically in the Three-Fingers Basin of Yukon-Charley National Preserve. For community phase 1.1, soils were classified as haplocrypts and were composed of organic matter over gravelly residuum. Disturbance resulting in other plant community phases was not observed.</p>			
State and Transition Diagram:			
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <span>1. Reference State</span> <span>subalpine scrub loamy slopes</span> <span>R231XY139AK</span> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; margin: 10px auto; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> 1.1 (HCPC)  Scrub birch-mixed ericaceous scrub-lichen scrubland </div> </div>			
State ID Number:	1	State Name:	Reference
State Narrative:	<p>Vegetation was primarily a mixture of medium shrubs, low shrubs, dwarf shrubs, and lichens.</p> <p>Medium shrubs are defined to grow 3-10' in height, low shrubs grow 8" to 36" in height, and dwarf shrubs grow less than 8" in height. Only one phase for this reference state was observed. Due to the regional specificity and remoteness of this ecological site, sampling was limited to 3 observations.</p>		

Photo 1.1



Community Phase  
Number:

1.1

Community  
Phase Name:

Scrub birch-mixed ericaceous scrub-lichen scrubland

Community Phase Narrative:

*Picea glauca* may be present but was generally observed to have < 5% cover. Mature tree averaged 85 years in age. Shrub cover was split between the medium, low, and dwarf stratum (total shrub cover ~95%) and the most commonly observed species were *Betula glandulosa*, *Vaccinium uliginosum*, and *Empetrum nigrum*. Forb and graminoid cover was limited but *Carex bigelowii* was commonly observed. While lichen diversity was high (i.e. 12 species), individual species had limited cover. The most abundant lichen were *Masonhalea richardsonii* and *Stereocaulon tomentosum*.

#### Community Pathways

Pathway Number

Pathway Name & Description

1.1A

No observed pathways.